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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

## INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY

East Germany

DATE DISTR. 21 March 1955

SUBJECT

1955 Contracts Coverage of Production  
of the Ministry of Machine Construction

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1. By early December of 1954, planned 1955 production in that East German industrial sector for which the Ministry for Machine Construction is responsible was about 60% covered by contract. Coverage by contract varies in the Main Administrations of the Ministry:
  - a. Production in the enterprises under the jurisdiction of the Main Administrations for Ship Construction, Automobile and Tractor Construction, and Agricultural Machine Construction is almost completely covered.
  - b. The Main Administrations for Radio and Telecommunications Technology and for Machine Tool Construction have the lowest coverage.
2. With respect to the last-named Main Administrations, the number of contracts is particularly low for long distance telephone installations, signal equipment, large planing machines, and heavy drilling and boring equipment. In view of the scarcity of 1955 demands for heavy machine tool equipment, the Ministry for Machine Construction plans to convert the VEB "Siebenter Oktober" in Berlin-Weissensee (the former Niles firm), which has produced heavy turning lathes into an enterprise putting out mainly small-type machine tools and equipment.

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